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REGEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, or listings, of claims in this application.

- 1. (Original) A filled halobutyl elastomer composition comprising at least one halobutyl elastomer, at least one mineral filler and at least one protected thiol modifier.
- 2. (Currently amended) <u>The A filled halobutyl elastomer composition</u> according to claim 1 wherein the halobutyl elastomer is a Bromobutyl elastomer.
- 3. (Currently amended) The A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the mineral filler is silica.
- 4. (Currently amended) The A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to any of claims claim 1 to 3 wherein the at least one protected thiol modifier(s) is/are modifier is a blocked moreaptosilane(s) mercaptosilane.
- 5. (Currently amended) The A filled halobutyl elastomer composition according to any of claims claim 1 to 4 wherein the at least one protected thiol modifier(s) is/are modifier is selected from the group consisting of thioacetic acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thioacetic acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thioacetic acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thioacetic acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thioacetic acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-trimethoxylsilyl-methyl ester, thiopropionic acid S-triethoxylsilyl-methyl ester, thiopropionic acid S-(2-triethoxylsilyl-ethyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-(3-triethoxylsilyl-propyl) ester, thiopropionic acid S-(3-triethoxylsilyl-propyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-triethoxylsilyl-methyl ester, thiobutyric acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, thiobutyric acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(2-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, thiobutyric acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester,

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pentanethioic acid S-trimethoxysilyl-methyl ester, pentanethioic acid S-triethoxysilyl-methyl ester, pentanethioic acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, pentanethioic acid S-(2-trimethoxysilyl-ethyl) ester, pentanethioic acid S-(3-trimethoxysilyl-propyl) ester, and pentanethioic acid S-(3-triethoxysilyl-propyl) ester er and mixtures thereof.

6. (Currently amended) A process for preparing a filled halobutyl elastomer which comprises:

admixing at least one halobutyl elastomer, at least one mineral filler, at least one protected thiol modifier and at least one cross-linking agent; and

curing the resulting <u>admixture to make the</u> filled brominated butyl <u>halobutyl</u> elastomer.

7. (Currently amended) A In a method of for improving the abrasion resistance of a filled, cured elastomer composition comprising:

providing at least one halogenated butyl elastomer by; and

admixing with said at least one halogenated butyl elastomer with at least one protected thiol modifier.

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